



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
PO Box 345

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0345

RESOLUTION

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

CELINA LEVY
Executive Director

Recognizing August 31, 2019 as
"International Overdose Awareness Day" in New Jersey

September 15, 2020

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event held on the 31st of August each year to raise awareness of overdose, reduce the stigma of drug-related death, and acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have met with death or permanent injury as a result of drug overdose; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day spreads the message that the tragedy of overdose is preventable, and that the thousands of people who die each year from drug overdose come from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, globally there are hundreds of thousands of premature deaths caused by drugs, with the United States leading the world in drug overdose deaths, and NJ Cares statistics showing 1,126 overdose deaths from January 1st to May 31st, and 3,294 Naloxone administrations from January 1st to March 31st; and

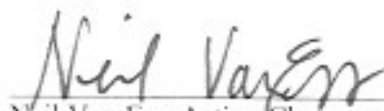
WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day 2019 theme is once again "Time To Remember; Time To Act", and to that end this day should stimulate discussion in order to educate communities about overdose prevention, and provide information on the range of support services and resources that exist in our communities; and

WHEREAS, this day provides an opportunity for people to publicly mourn for loved ones, some for the first time, without feeling guilt or shame and send a strong message to current and former drug users that they are valued; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse remains committed to raising awareness in order to combat the stigma associated with substance use disorders.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse hereby recognizes August 31, 2019 as "Overdose Awareness Day" in New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to Governor Phil Murphy, the New Jersey Legislature, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services; County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Directors, and County Alliance Coordinators.


Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman

9-15-2020
Date